BMIS Arts Reflection work

Answer any two of the following questions, approximately 200 words for each question

1. How much can we learn about the past for the history of Art?                       History
2. To what extent do the arts help us to see the world with new eyes?             Perception
3. Is art the language of emotion?                                                                      Emotion
4. What role does creative imagination play in the sciences?                            Natural Sciences
5. **How much can we learn about the past for the history of Art?**

Art can be used to convey a certain time period or event in history differently to just reading it from a text book. The artist creates the piece with the intent of showing his personal view of what was happening at the time. Unlike factual texts, the artist can portray the emotions that were associated with the event, whereas factual texts just tell you what happened. For example in one of our lessons we looked at a powerpoint that brought up a point about a war poem being able to tell us something more than a factual account. We said the poem was able to give the audience a greater understanding of the affects of the war and how people felt at the time, it conveys emotion. Emotion is a way of knowing and therefore through art we are able to know more about the past.

1. **Is art the language of emotion?**

In this reflection I will discuss if art is the language of emotion. I believe that art is the language of emotion and I will attempt to explain why I think this.

Art is a way of expressing the artist emotions, however the way it is perceived by the audience may be different from the intent of the artist. You are able to see an artist’s emotion when you look at a painting for example, the techniques and colours and styles used create some sort of emotion to the audience. In one of our TOK classes we looked at and discussed a painting by Jackson Pollock, we then wrote down a list of adjectives that we thought best described the painting, some examples we came up with were; Busy, spontaneous, random etc. These adjectives describe how the artist’s emotion. This shows that art is how we ‘speak’ through emotion. Plato’s theory was that art is a catharsis, which is way of relieving yourself of your kept emotion and instead of doing something in a real life situation, you use art as a substitute to release how your emotions. For example acting out a fight in theatre relieves you of your aggression. This is another way art is used to communicate through your emotions. Mimesis is a copy of reality and therefore there are is no intent of the artist and no emotions are expressed. Therefore in order for art to be a language of emotion, it has to be unique and related to the artist.

**Sources**

PowerPoints from: <http://bmistok.wikispaces.com/Arts>